

CLAIMS

1. A file transferring system for transferring content data recorded in a first recording medium to a second recording medium, comprising:

5 a recording and reproducing apparatus for recording data to the second recording medium and reproducing data from the second recording medium;

a content data supplying unit for supplying content data; and

10 a content data managing unit for outputting content data supplied from the content data supplying unit to the recording and reproducing apparatus,

wherein the content data managing unit has:

15 recording means for correlating content data supplied from the content data supplying unit with a content identifier unique to each of content data and recording the correlated content data and content identifier to the first recording medium;

20 transfer management information updating means for updating transfer managing information with which content data that are recorded to the second recording medium are managed, the content data being supplied so that the content identifier and a recording medium identifier unique to each second recording
25 medium are correlated; and

controlling means for receiving the recording medium identifier of the second recording medium loaded

in the recording and reproducing apparatus, data of the second recording medium being reproduced by the recording and reproducing apparatus, and for controlling content data transferred to the recording and reproducing apparatus so that the content data recorded in the first recording medium is recorded to the second recording medium.

2. The file transferring system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the content data recorded in the first recording medium are managed so that the number of permissible copy times of each of the content data that are copied to other recording mediums is restricted, and

wherein when content data are transferred from the first recording medium to the second recording medium, the number of permissible copy times is decremented.

3. The file transferring system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the second recording medium to and from which data is recorded and reproduced by the recording and reproducing apparatus is loadable and unloadable thereto and therefrom.

4. The file transferring system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the transfer management information

contains transfer reservation information, and

wherein the transfer management information updating means is configured to correlate content data supplied from the content data supplying unit with the record medium identifier of the second recording medium to which the content data are transferred and update the transfer reservation information of the transfer management information.

5. The file transferring system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein each of the recording and reproducing apparatus and the content data managing unit has communicating means for communicating with each other, and

wherein when it has been determined that the recording and reproducing apparatus and the content data managing unit are connected by the communicating means, the content data are transferred.

6. The file transferring system as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the transfer management information updating means is configured to reserve the transfer of content data to the second recording medium in which content data has not been recorded and whose recording medium identifier has not been registered in the transfer management information.

7. The file transferring system as set forth in

claim 1,

wherein the transfer management information contains recordable capacity information of the second recording medium,

5 wherein when the transfer of content data from the first recording medium to the second recording medium is reserved, the recording capacitance of the reserved content data is compared with the recordable capacitance of the second recording medium managed in
10 accordance with the transfer management information, and

 wherein if the recordable capacitance of the second recording medium is insufficient, a reservation for which the content data is deleted from the second
15 recording medium is performed so as to increase the recordable capacity of the second recording medium.

8. The file transferring system as set forth in claim 7,

 wherein the content data recorded in the
20 first recording medium is managed so that the number of permissible copy times of each of content data that are copied to other recording mediums is restricted, and

 wherein when content data transferred from the first recording medium and recorded in the second
25 recording medium are deleted, the number of permissible copy times is incremented.

9. A file transferring method for transferring

content data recorded in a first recording medium to a second recording medium, comprising the steps of:

correlating content data supplied from a content data supplying unit with a content identifier unique to each of content data and recording the correlated content data and content identifier to the first recording medium;

updating transfer managing information with which content data that are recorded to the second recording medium are managed, the content data being supplied so that the content identifier and a recording medium identifier unique to each second recording medium are correlated; and

controlling content data transferred to a recording and reproducing apparatus so that the content data recorded in the first recording medium is recorded to the second recording medium in accordance with the recording medium identifier of the second recording medium and the transfer management information that are received.

10. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 9,

wherein the content data recorded in the first recording medium are managed so that the number of permissible copy times of each of the content data that are copied to other recording mediums is restricted, and

wherein when content data are transferred from the first recording medium to the second recording medium, the number of permissible copy times is decremented.

5 11. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 9,

 wherein content data supplied from the content data supplying unit are correlated with the record medium identifier of the second recording medium to which the content data are transferred and the transfer reservation information of the transfer management information is updated.

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12. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 9,

15 wherein the second recording medium is loadable and unloadable to and from the recording and reproducing apparatus for recording and reproducing data to and from the second recording medium.

13. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 9,

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 wherein when the second recording medium is recognized by the recording and reproducing apparatus, the file is transferred.

14. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 9,

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 wherein the transfer of content data is reserved to the second recording medium in which

content data has not been recorded and whose recording medium identifier has not been registered in the transfer management information.

15. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 9,

wherein the transfer management information contains recordable capacity information of the second recording medium,

wherein when the transfer of content data from the first recording medium to the second recording medium is reserved, the recording capacitance of the reserved content data is compared with the recordable capacitance of the second recording medium managed in accordance with the transfer management information, and

wherein if the recordable capacitance of the second recording medium is insufficient, a reservation for which the content data is deleted from the second recording medium is performed so as to increase the recordable capacity of the second recording medium.

16. The file transferring method as set forth in claim 15,

wherein the content data recorded in the first recording medium is managed so that the number of permissible copy times of each of content data that are copied to other recording mediums is restricted, and

wherein when content data transferred from

the first recording medium and recorded in the second recording medium are deleted, the number of permissible copy times is incremented.